

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

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MarineFisheries Advisory April 30, 2004

MarineFisheries ISSUES EMERGENCY GROUNDFISH REGULATIONS COMPATIBLE WITH NEW FEDERAL GROUNDFISH RULES – AMENDMENT 13 EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2004

MarineFisheries has implemented some emergency regulations for recreational and commercial fishing in state waters compatible with recent federal final rules for the Multispecies Fishery that will implement Amendment 13. Full details about Amendment 13 can be found on the NOAA Fisheries Northeast Regional Office website at www.nero.noaa.gov/amend13. The following regulations for state waters are effective May 1, 2004:

MarineFisheries Emergency Regulations:

Recreational Fishing for Cod & Haddock:

- Minimum size for cod is reduced from 23" to 22"
- Minimum size for haddock is reduced from 21" to 19"

Commercial Fishing for Cod:

- Possession limit east and south of Cape Cod is reduced from 2,000 to 1,000 lbs per day.
- Possession limit north of Cape Cod is increased from 500 to 800 lbs. per day.

MarineFisheries may issue more rules to complement other aspects of recently enacted Amendment 13 to the federal Multispecies Fishery Management Plan.

For further information please visit our website at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.